

SUB C17 1. (Amended) Apparatus for processing a plurality of postal data elements, a first one of the plurality of postal data elements being a function of at least a second one of the plurality of postal data elements, the apparatus comprising:

B1 a processor for arranging the plurality of postal data elements in an order where the second postal data element precedes the first postal data element;

an output for providing a representation representing the plurality of postal data elements in the arranged order; and

a printer for printing said representation upon a medium.

SUB C27 7. (Amended) Apparatus for processing a plurality of postal data elements, the apparatus comprising:

B2 a processor for arranging the plurality of postal data elements in an order such that each postal data element preceding a second postal data element is independent of the second postal data element;

an output for providing a representation representing the plurality of postal data elements in the arranged order; and

a printer for printing said representation upon a medium.

~~SUB C37 19. (Amended) Apparatus for conducting a postage franking transaction to generate a representation representing data, the apparatus comprising:~~

~~B3 a processor for identifying a first subset of the data which is unaffected by the postage franking transaction and a second subset of the data which is subject to change during the postage franking transaction;~~

~~an output for providing a representation representing the first subset of the data and the second subset of the data, the representation being partitioned into a first part and a second part thereof, the first subset of the data and the second subset of the data being represented by the first part and the second part, respectively; and~~

~~a printer for printing said representation upon a medium.~~

~~SUB C47 20. (Amended) Apparatus for conducting postage franking transaction, the apparatus comprising:~~

~~B4 a processor for processing a plurality of data elements;~~

~~an output for generating at least a first symbol and a second symbol representing the data elements, at least part of the first symbol representing a first subset of the data elements which is unaffected by the postage franking transaction, and at least part of the second symbol representing a second subset of the data elements which is subject to change during the postage franking transaction; and~~

a printer for printing said symbols upon a medium.

---

SUB C57

B5

26. (Amended) Apparatus for generating a postage indicium based on at least first data, the first data being a function of second data, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for determining at least one candidate for the first data based on a predicted version of the second data;

a comparator for comparing an actual version of the second data with the predicted version thereof;

an output for generating the postage indicium based on the candidate for the first data when the actual version matches the predicted version; and

a printer for printing said indicium upon a medium.

---

SUB C47

B6

34. (Amended) Apparatus for creating a postage indicium representing a plurality of data elements, and at least one code for authenticating selected ones of the data elements, the apparatus comprising:

an interface for receiving a request for creating the postage indicium;

a processor for performing computations to generate the code, selected ones of the computations being performed before the request is received, the code being generated based on results of the selected computations after the request is received; and